

Amendments to the Drawings:

The sheet of drawing containing Figure 3 has been amended to add a Figure 3A illustrating a carabineer hook. Support for this figure can be found in paragraphs [0007] and [0018] of the specification and in claim 4.

Attachments: Replacement Sheet: One

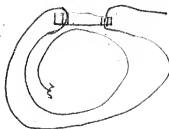
REMARKS

Claims 1 through 6 and 8 are in the case. Claims 1 and 8 are amended by this amendment. Claim 7 is canceled by this amendment.

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) because the drawings failed to show the carabiner hook as recited in claim 4. Enclosed is an amended sheet of drawing adding a figure 3A showing the hook as a carabiner hook.

Claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 are rejected as being anticipated by Pagenkopf, U.S. Patent No. 2,193,980. Claims 3, 4 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pagenkopf in view of Sonnenburg.

Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to clarify that one end of the retaining device engages a loop of the spiral wound strip in a different coil than the coil the other end of the retaining device engages. As explained in Pagenkopf, first page, second column, lines 33-41, the ends of the retaining device of Pagenkopf are not engaging different coils of the spiral wound strip. Rather Pagenkopf's retaining device has the wire looped through one end and then the wire is reversed and wrapped around the spool in the opposite direction and engages the other end of Pagenkopf's retaining device. Below is a sketch that illustrates this reversal of the wire.



Pagenkopf does not show or suggest a retaining device as claimed by Applicant in claims 1 and 8, as amended, where the ends of the retaining device engage different coils in the spiral wound strip.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Sonnenburg, U.S. Patent No. 2,513,256. Claim 7 has been cancelled.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 through 6 and 8 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested and allowance of the claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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